Dear Dan

6/22/77

Relet 19, Ray: I was away, in Dallas working on an FOIA case when it happen ed. Whe he could be offed inside the jail easier than in an escape attempt I never believed there was any conspiracy to get him out to off him. espite what UPI put on the wire out of Dallas, probably misled by WFAA, which wanted the story/plug.

Considering some of the less than gilden work in Fonzi's past that he is getting disillusion with his committee [redacted] can be a sign. CBS reported 20 staff resignations.

On the FBI files, I've been keeping a low profile, making no public use of any. Or any distribution. There are many reasons. However, there will, within a short period, be the end of the fils from which they are now complying. I will then send you all on Somersett. In part this is because of the enormous backlog of copying that is exhausting Lil. Also it may suggest something else. Won't be long. Maybe end next week.

I'm expecting proof of an investigation of Somersett's Washington tale. My suspicion is that the record will say it didn't happen.

Scott is a nice giant of a kid. I've known of his mafia-did-it belief for a long time. He knows I do not credit it but have done all I can to help him. He has yet to return anytning, though.

The McLaney-Benton connection may intrigue you and it may make a good story but when you connect it with JFK let me know.

During the short Hall hearing I sat next to Scott. He told he he was going there. If he did not tell you Hall's coming over to me to greet me ("Lets go talk when this shit is over") and our departing together and our leaving together seemed to upset those with feet in mouths. I paid no attention. Scott told me. They upset easily, I guess.

There has been no release of FBI documents on Somersett. What I referred to is those I got by suit. There likely have been CIA general releases, because so many of us are after them, that include McLaney. I have them all. Supposedly, anyway. But I've read few. Surprised Weberman did not give you copies. Give me the numbers and we'll send them. Without the numbers the CIA added this is now impossible simply because we've not have time to read or even break into files. Just great big stacks.

If McLaney's lawyer send the mag a threatening letter you have some kind of credentials for it. Probably intended to discourage publication. The cost of defending a spurious suit can be high.

There is not only the accumulation of records I've not been able to go over and other work I can t get to, I have FOIA affidavit drafts to do. And other things I can't get to. So If I haven't sent the Somersett stuff in a couple of weeks remind me. I'm pretty sure I've told you all the little these pages say.

Best ti Nikki and the animals,